

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 16 were originally pending in this application. The Examiner has required restriction to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. §121:

- I. Claims 1 - 10, drawn to a method of manufacturing, classified in Class 264, Subclass 255
- II. Claims 11 - 16, drawn to a component of a center console assembly, classified in Class 296, Subclass 24.34.

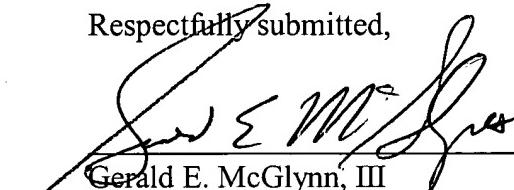
The Examiner found that the inventions are distinct, each from the other, because inventions I and II are related as process of making and the product made. More specifically, the Examiner found that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different products. Alternatively, the Examiner found that the product as claimed could be made by another and materially different process. Specifically, the Examiner found that the component of a center console could be made by another, materially different process. Thus, the Examiner asserts that the inventions I and II have acquired a separate status in the art, as shown by their different classification. Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement.

The invention of group I is directed toward a method of manufacturing a component of a center console assembly. The invention of group II is directed toward a component of a center console assembly that results from the method described in group I. Applicants respectfully submit that the invention of group II could only be made by the method of group I. Accordingly, the inventions of group I and II are related and could all be searched together. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the Restriction Requirement is improper and should be withdrawn.

Nevertheless, in reply to the Examiner's requirement, applicants provisionally elect to prosecute the invention of group I, claims 1 - 10, drawn to the method of manufacturing a component of a center console assembly for the interior of a vehicle.

Finally, it is respectfully submitted that the claims clearly distinguish over the prior art, and are therefore allowable, which allowance is respectfully solicited

Respectfully submitted,



Gerald E. McGlynn, III

Registration No. 33,737

BLISS McGLYNN, P.C.

2075 W. Big Beaver, Suite 600

Troy, Michigan 48084

(248) 649-6090

Date: August 17, 2004

Attorney Docket No.: 04253 (3883.00036)